

HOUSE No. 427

By Mr. Speliotis of Danvers, petition of Theodore C. Speliotis for legislation to further define the responsibilities of the Labor Relations Commission relative to work stoppages. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT DEFINING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION IN WORK STOPPAGES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 150E, Section 9A of the Massachusetts General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is amended by deleting
3 paragraph (b) and substituting a new paragraph (b) as follows:—
4 (b) whenever a strike occurs or is about to occur, the employer
5 shall petition the commission to make an investigation to deter-
6 mine whether any provision of Section (a) has been or is about to
7 be violated. If the Commission so determines, it shall instruct the
8 employer to institute appropriate proceedings in the Superior
9 Court in the county wherein such violation has occurred or is
10 about to occur. Furthermore, the Court may in its discretion
11 appoint a master to meet with the parties and to recommend pos-
12 sible solutions for the resolution of the controversy.
13 Further the Commission shall conduct an expedited hearing and
14 subpoena witnesses to investigate the cause of the alleged viola-
15 tion of Section (a)1. If the Commission finds that the violation ha-
16 s been caused by an unfair labor practice of the employer then the
17 employees shall be absolved of any civil fines or penalties levied
18 by the Court and the Commission may order round the clock bar-
19 gaining and penalize by a fine of not more than five hundred dol-
20 lars for parties who refuse to obey the order of the Commission.